

Remarks

Claims 1-8 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The non-final Office Action dated September 7, 2007 lists the following rejection: claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Greitschus *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 5,872,504) in view of Nicholson *et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,507,272).

Applicant respectfully traverses the Section 103(a) rejection of claims 1-8 because the cited combination does not correspond to the claimed invention which includes, for example, aspects directed to the only electrical connections between the resistor sub-bodies being via the taps connected with the resistor sub-bodies. The Office Action acknowledges that the Greitschus reference does not disclose a resistor body having multiple resistor sub-bodies, as claimed by applicant. In an attempt to address these deficiencies, the Office Action cites to portions of the Nicholson reference which also do not teach such aspects. The cited portions of Nicholson teach a linear resistor string that is arranged in a folded configuration. *See, e.g.*, Figure 5. Each of the resistors is connected in series with each other and a switching matrix is used to selectively connect one of the resistor nodes to the output. *See, e.g.*, Figure 7 and Col. 7:3-13. Instead of teaching multiple resistor sub-bodies which are only electrically connected via the taps as claimed, Nicholson teaches the same series combination of resistors as taught by the Greitschus reference (*see, e.g.*, resistors 10 of Figure 2), with the resistor being arranged in a different configuration than that taught by Greitschus.

Moreover, the Office Action does not identify which aspects of Nicholson correspond to Applicant's multiple resistor sub-bodies which are each connected to and situated between columns of taps. Applicant submits that Nicholson's teachings directed toward a linear resistor string do not correspond to these aspects of the claimed invention.

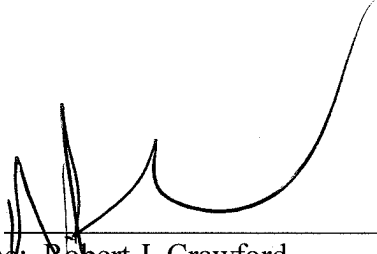
In view of the above, the Section 103(a) rejection of claims 1-8 is improper and Applicant requests that it be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks above, Applicant believes that each of the rejections has been overcome and the application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any remaining issues that could be readily addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the agent overseeing the application file, Peter Zawilski, of NXP Corporation at (408) 474-9063 (or the undersigned).

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